



DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE

Central Intelligence Bulletin

Top Secret

REF ID: A66541
C 214
6 March 1968



25X1

Approved For Release 2005/05/12 : CIA-RDP79T00975A010900030001-7

Approved For Release 2005/05/12 : CIA-RDP79T00975A010900030001-7

6 March 1968

25X1

Central Intelligence Bulletin

CONTENTS

25X1

25X6

Warsaw Pact: Moscow is probably headed for another clash with the Rumanians. (Page 5)

25X1

Ecuador: The presidential election campaign is heating up. (Page 8)

Panama: Tension continues to rise as Arias pushes for impeachment of Robles. (Page 9)

25X1

25X1

Next 5 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Warsaw Pact: Another confrontation between the Rumanians and the Soviet Union is likely at the opening meeting today in Sofia of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee.

25X1

25X1

[redacted] Bucharest will hope to ward off Moscow's demands for unanimous approval of the US-USSR sponsored nonproliferation treaty. Rumania opposes the treaty in its present form and probably resents being put under duress from Moscow to approve it.

25X1

Bucharest probably will be no more forthcoming on any new declaration on European security and the German question. Moscow, East Germany and Poland want to take a harder line against Bonn's eastern policy than Bucharest would like because of its recognition of West Germany. The Rumanians also will carefully review the wording of any resolution that implies their concurrence with Soviet policy on sensitive international Communist issues, such as Vietnam.

[redacted]

6 Mar 68

5

25X1

Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

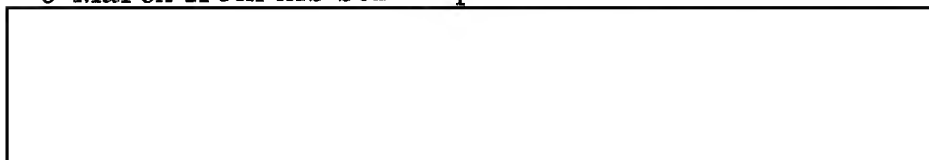
25X1

*Ecuador: Followers of two presidential candidates clashed in Guayaquil on 4 March, and further violence is likely before the election in June.

The groups involved were supporters of Camilo Ponce and the leading candidate, Jose Maria Velasco, whose erratic actions led to his ouster in three of his four previous presidential terms.

Velasco has announced that he will return on 9 March from his self-imposed exile in Buenos Aires.

25X1



In a press interview on 5 March, Velasco accused interim President Otto Arosemena's administration of planning "electoral frauds" to defeat him.

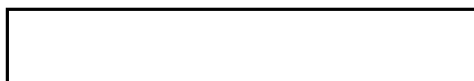
25X1

25X1



6 Mar 68

8



25X1

*Panama: Political tensions continue to rise as National Union (NU) leader Arnulfo Arias pushes for impeachment of President Robles.

In the absence of any conciliatory gesture from Robles to implement the compromise agreement reached early Monday, the Arias-controlled National Assembly is proceeding with its impeachment plans. A three-man commission appointed to investigate the charges of attempted manipulation of electoral machinery by Robles may issue its report today and request Robles to appear before the assembly for questioning.

The assembly may also vote on a date, no sooner than three days, to hear the commission's decision and to accept or reject the impeachment charges. If the accusations are upheld, Robles is required by the constitution to step aside in favor of the first vice president--an Arias supporter.

Meanwhile, Robles remains adamant in his refusal to make any compromise move. Both Robles and government candidate Samudio made a determined but unsuccessful effort yesterday to pressure National Guard Commandant Vallarino into dissolving the assembly. [redacted]

25X1

[redacted] the government may be preparing to take some action--possibly including a suspension of constitutional guarantees--to prevent the assembly from convening again.

Both sides appear to be preparing for trouble. Arias is calling for 5,000 supporters to gather when the assembly meets, and NU media in the capital have begun to issue inflammatory reports on the activities of pro-Samudio "hoodlums." Such action in the past has been responsible for stirring up public emotion and inciting violence.

Some disorders by partisans of both Arias and Samudio have already occurred and more can probably be expected. [redacted]

25X1

6 Mar 68

9

25X1

25X1

Approved For Release 2005/05/12 : CIA-RDP79T00975A010900030001-7

Approved For Release 2005/05/12 : CIA-RDP79T00975A010900030001-7

Approved For Release 2005/05/12 : CIA-RDP79T00975A010900030001-7

Top Secret

Approved For Release 2005/05/12 : CIA-RDP79T00975A010900030001-7